Gender Resource Group: evolution, integration in UIBN–Pakistan Chapter and potential upscaling

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Background

- Women living in poverty are most vulnerable to water food-energy insecurities.
- Although women are heavily involved in all three sectors, policies on water, food and energy neglect the role of women as important stakeholders for decision-making and problem-solving.
- Addressing gender inequalities and advancing women empowerment are central to achieving access to water, food and energy.
Gap and Plan

Gap

There is limited sharing and exchange of knowledge among and between gender experts and organizations working in the Indus basin on issues related to gender and water-food-energy securities.

Plan

To bring all concerned organizations and individuals in one platform for promoting discussion on gender issues in water-food-energy security collaboratively together to address challenges.
A platform for sharing information, exchange experiences and knowledge among researchers, practitioners, planners and decision makers.

“Space where exchange of knowledge and experience takes place around issues related to gender and water-food-energy securities and unite together in order to change power relation, improve practice, and advocate specific issues to influence policy and action”.

Vision of a platform
Role

• Promote cross-learning and leverage peer-to-peer support.
• Work together to support the sustainable, fair, inclusive, and climate resilient development of water, food and energy resources in the Indus basin.
• Serve as a catalyst for regional cooperation to foster rich dialogue, create trans-boundary opportunities, and influence decision makers for gender transformative change.
Benefits

• Stay up to-date with new research, innovations and best practices on water-food-energy security and gender equality.

• Gain access to knowledge products and relevant events of all partner organizations related to gender and water-food-energy interventions in the region and beyond.

• Capacity development of all members to support and enhance their skills and capacities.

• Enhanced collective voice for policy influence both at national and basin levels.

• Enhanced gender integration across all programmes on water-food-energy security in the Indus basin.
Gender Resource Group in the Upper Indus basin Network (UIBN) Pakistan Chapter

Focus areas:
- Water
- Land
- Food
- Energy
• Better representation of women from grassroots level organizations, govt line departments and NGOs.

• A meeting of this group was held on COVID19 impacts on women and actions taken by various members, the gaps and what needs to be done.

• Collaborations between members and ICIMOD gender team on webinars, activities, ideas on trainings on gender.

• Sharing resources and information from all over Pakistan among members and with ICIMOD

• Under HKPL RPII, arrangements are made to form GRG in Bam e Dunya network and identification of partners and members is completed.
## Upcaling

**UIBN**

- Set up such GRG in other countries - GRGs to be part of the country chapters of UIBN
- Set up a regional GRG representing all country chapters - this may be catalyst for transformative change in HKH and mountain communities

**ICIMOD’s**

- Set up GRG in Transboundary Landscape
- GRG could be institutionalized – TORs, etc. clarified
Thank you

Protect the pulse.